



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION
3033 WAYNE TRACE, FORT WAYNE, IN 46806-3000

04V-144 ① of ②

TRUCK GROUP

March 22, 2004

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington D.C. 20590

Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report

Pursuant to Part 573.6 (c) (1), this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by **International Truck and Engine Corporation**.

(1) IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES [Part 573.6 (c)(2)]

- Vehicle Models Involved:
 - 7300, 7400, 7500
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
 - Between 9/27/2001 and 3/8/2004
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
 - Vehicles with DT466 or DT530 I308 style engines AND 4x4 or 6x6 capability.

(2) COMPONENT MANUFACTURER [Part 573.6 (c)(2)(iv)]

- This report does not relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than International Truck and Engine Corporation.

(3) VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED [Part 573.6 (c)(3)]

| <i>Model</i> | <i>U.S. Quantity</i> | <i>Canadian Quantity</i> | <i>Mexico Quantity</i> | <i>Export Quantity</i> |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7300 4x4 | 863 | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| 7400 4x4 | 902 | 11 | 1 | 8 |
| 7400 6x6 | 207 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| 7500 4x4 | 48 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 7500 6x6 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| <i>Totals</i> | <i>2052</i> | <i>31</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>26</i> |

(4) PERCENTAGE OF VEHICLES ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(4)]

- It is estimated that 95% of the vehicles contain the defect; however, all will be inspected to determine the proper level of remedy.

(5) DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(5)]

- Under certain braking conditions, the universal joint between the front drive shaft and the front drive axle may come in contact with the engine oil filter, possibly causing a puncture resulting in complete engine oil loss. Engine oil loss will result in the shutdown of the vehicle's engine without warning, possibly resulting in property damage, personal injury, or death.

(6) CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT or TEST RESULTS THAT LED TO DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE [Part 573.6 (c)(6)/(7)]

- 8/25/2003 Suspension testing showed an interference condition to exist under certain hard braking conditions.
- 9/16/03 Engine and Truck Engineering reviewed 4 potential options to contain the interference issue.
- 10/2/2003 Engine and Truck Engineering decided on a potential containment action that could be implemented at the plants. The proposed action was to install a bushing on the existing filter stud and then install a shorter filter.
- 11/5/2003 Engine and Truck Engineering finalized a validation plan for the proposed containment action.
- 12/1/2004 Field-testing and validation of proposed containment action began.
- 1/24/2004 Field-testing and validation of proposed containment action complete.
- 3/8/2004 Parts became available for production containment.
- 3/15/2004 Search conducted to determine suspect population.
- 3/18/2004 International declares a safety recall.

(7) PROGRAM TO REMEDY DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)]

- A shorter oil filter and adapter will be installed on all suspect vehicles. This adapter will ensure that only the shorter oil filter can be installed during all future oil/oil filter changes.

(8) PLAN FOR REIMBURSEMENT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]

- Some of the vehicles in this recall fall outside the warranty period; therefore, our plan for reimbursement of pre-notification remedies, on file and dated 2/6/2003 does apply and instructions will be included in the customer notification.

(9) *SCHEDULE FOR RECALL NOTIFICATION [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*

- Notify International Dealers by: April 22, 2004
- Notify International Customers by: April 29, 2004

(10) *INTERNATIONAL RECALL NUMBER [Part 573.6 (c)(11)]*

- 04504 (NHTSA number not assigned yet)

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,



R. L. Van Laar
Compliance Manager
INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION